the desired direction, recommended, inter-alia, abolition of admission tests at the pre-primary stage.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of NCERT have been communicated to all the States|UTs. The Directorate of Educa-tion, Delhi Administration has, in consonance with these lecommendations, abolished the system of admission tests for model schools in 1991 and adopted the system of computerised random selection. Further, the State Programmes of Action, which are being prepared in pursuance of National Programme of Action (POA-92) will have to provide for appropriate measures for implementation cf these recommendations. The recommenda-tions have also been reviewed in Regional Review meetings of Education Secretaries.

Purchase of Urdu Books

2112. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL ALIAS MEEM AFZAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate of Education, Delhi provides a list of books *to* schools *to* purchase books out of that list as and when it releases I.iberary grant;

(b) whether it is a fact that only a few Urdu books figure in that list;

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to update and enhance the list Urdu books; and

(d) what are the reasons for not entrusting the work to Urdu Academy as the Central Government have given this responsibility to Bureau for Promotion of Urdu ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDU-CATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Delhi Admn. has intimated that only 50 percent grant is to be utilised for purchase «f library books out of the approved list and the balance 50 percent grant, is at the discretion of the Principals.

(b) and (c) Delhi Admn. has intimated that all the three Urdu books received for the session 1992-1993 were enlisted in the approved list. As per procedure, an advertisement is made in the Press for inviting books for enlisting in the approved list. Books received by the Delhi Text Book Bureau of the Administration are examined in accordance with the policy guidelines jy the Expert Committee which includes Principals of Urdu medium schools.

(d) Keeping in view the need for main-tenance of standards in selection of books in all languages, the present procedure s considered satisfactory by Delhi Ad-ministration.

Educationally Backward Districts

2113 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAND-RAKANT BHANDARE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any districts have been dentified as being educationally backward for extension of the operation Black Board during 1993-94 ;

(b) if so, the number and names of such districts in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bihar and other States and Uunion Territories ; and

(c) the allocations made under the programme State /Union. Territory-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDU-CATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KM. SELJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.